

What is the difference between Heard Island and McDonald Island?

Heard Island - 80% ice-covered, bleak and mountainous, dominated by a large massif (Big Ben) and an active volcano (Mawson Peak); McDonald Islands - small and rocky fish Mawson Peak, an active volcano, is on Heard Island

How big is Heard Island & McDonald Islands?

The group's overall land area is 372 km² (144 sq mi) and it has 101.9 km (63 mi) of coastline. Discovered in the mid-19th century, the islands lie on the Kerguelen Plateau in the Indian Ocean and have been an Australian territory since 1947. Heard Island and McDonald Islands contain Australia's only two active volcanoes.

Where are Heard Island and McDonald Islands located?

The islands are a territory (Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands) of Australia administered from Hobart by the Australian Antarctic Division of the Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

Why are Heard Island and McDonald Islands isolated?

However, the site's isolation assists in reducing anthropogenic impacts upon the site's values. Heard Island and McDonald Islands are located in the Southern Ocean, approximately 1,700 km from the Antarctic continent and 4,100 km south-west of Perth.

Is there a threat to Heard Island and the McDonald Islands?

Ongoing and accelerating climate change poses an increasing risk of fundamental alterations in biodiversity. Geological processes (primarily volcanism and glacial retreat) continue undisturbed. The overall assessment is that there is a low threat to the World Heritage values of Heard Island and the McDonald Islands if visitation remains low.

Where is Heard Island located?

Key Words: sub-Antarctic islands, Heard Island, McDonald Islands. The Heard Island and the McDonald Islands (HIMI) group is located in the Indian Ocean sector of the Southern Ocean at approximately 53°S 73°E, some 4000 km southwest of Western Australia, 4700 km southeast of Africa and 1000 km north of the Antarctic continent.

Heard Island and McDonald Islands are located in the Southern Ocean, approximately 1,700 km from the Antarctic continent and 4,100 km south-west of Perth. As the only volcanically active subantarctic islands they "open a window into the earth", thus providing the opportunity to observe ongoing geomorphic processes and glacial dynamics.

"The sub-Antarctic Heard Island and McDonald Islands (HIMI) group is an Australian external territory located in the Indian Ocean sector of the Southern Ocean. The island group was inscribed on the World Heritage list in 1997 for its outstanding natural universal

The Proposal to expand Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve - Public consultation paper ("proclamation proposal") has been prepared to support public consultation on the proposed design of an expanded Heard Island and McDonald Islands (HIMI) Marine Reserve.

The Heard Island and McDonald Islands group was formed by the plume type of volcanism, a process that is poorly understood in comparison with the earth's other two main volcanic types - subduction and seafloor spreading. This feature of the group offers an extraordinary view into the

The Australian subantarctic Heard Island and McDonald Islands (HIMI) Marine Reserve is among the world's most remote MPAs with notoriously harsh oceanographic conditions, and yet the...

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OverviewWildlifeHistoryGeographyAdministration and economySee alsoFurther readingExternal linksThe islands are part of the Southern Indian Ocean Islands tundra ecoregion that includes several subantarctic islands. In this cold climate, plant life is mainly limited to grasses, lichens, and mosses. Low plant diversity reflects the islands' isolation, small size, severe climate, the short, cool growing season and, for Heard Island, substantial permanent ice cover. The main environmental deter...

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Heard Island and the McDonald Islands are free from introduced predators and provide crucial breeding habitat in the middle of the vast Southern Ocean for a range of birds. The surrounding waters are important feeding areas for birds and some scavenging species also derive sustenance from their cohabitants on the islands.

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